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MAR 15 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 09/998,551

Attorney Docket No.: 09820.155

Filing Date: November 29, 2001

Examiner: Riley

Applicant: NELSON et al.

Title: **LABEL-FREE DETECTION OF NUCLEIC ACIDS VIA SURFACE
PLASMON RESONANCE**

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR §1.111

Mail Stop: **NON-FEE AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FILED VIA FAX: 703-872-9306

11 PAGES TOTAL

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated December 15, 2003, Applicants request favorable reconsideration in view of the following amendment and accompanying remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Applicants' Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via fax to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, at 703-872-9306.


Signature


Date

S.N. 09/998,551

1 of 11